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CLAIMS

A user authentication system comprising a registration station provided with an information acquisition device for obtaining biological individuality data for distinguishing\individuality of a user, an authentication card issuing station that issues to the user a user authentication card recorded with a divided part of the biological individuality data, an authentication access terminal provided with an authentication-card reader for reading the information of the user authentication cand and an identity acquisition device for inputting biological individuality data of the user, and at least one certification authority that is connected to the authentication access terminal through an information communication channel, wherein the certification authority holds the record of the remaining part of the biological individuality data that have obtained at the registration station but not recorded in the user authentication card, the recorded contents in the user authentication card read out by the authentication card reader are compared with the biological individuality data of the user obtained on the spot through the identity acquisition device to authenticate identification of the user at the authentication access terminal, and if a higher level of authentication is required, the certification authority compares the biological individuality data of the user obtained at the authentication access terminal with the part of the biological individuality data missing in the user authentication card in response to inquiry from the authentication access terminal and sends the comparison result to the authentication\access terminal

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for further authentication.

- 2. A user authentication system according to claim 1, wherein the user authentication card has an computing function and the computing function executes calculation of authenticating personal identification at the authentication access terminal.
- 3. A user authentication system according to claim 2, wherein the information exchanged through the information communication channel is encrypted.
- 4. A user authentication system according to any of claims 1 through 3, wherein the two or more certification authorities dividedly record part of the biological individuality data obtained at the registration station but not recorded in the user authentication card, and one certification authority compares the biological individuality data of the user input at the authentication access terminal with the part of the biological individuality data stored in the certification authority in response to inquiry from the authentication access terminal or other certification authority for further authentication.
- 5. A user authentication system according to any of claims 1 through 4, wherein the certification authority is provided with a memory device for recording the biological individuality data obtained at the registration station.

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6. A user authentication system according to any of Claims 1 through 5, wherein plural kinds of biological individuality data are registered so that different transactions can be conducted in response to the kind of the input data.

- 7. A user authentication device comprising an authentication-card reader for reading out information recorded in an authentication IC card, an identity acquisition device for inputting biological individuality data of a user, a judgment device for checking the biological individuality data of the authentication IC card read out by the authentication-card reader against the biological individuality data input on the spot through the identity acquisition device and for judging acceptance of the user, a communication unit for transmitting at least a part of the biological individuality data of the user input through the identity acquisition unit to a certification authority outside and receiving an authentication result of the certification authority, and a display device for displaying a judgment result.
- 8. An authentication IC card comprising a CPU, an authentication file storing identity information, and an application file classified into files according to the depth of authentication, wherein when requested from the outside to present information recorded in the application file, the CPU compares identity information input from the outside with the identity information stored in the authentication file, and confirms the depth of authentication, whereby if an acceptance is

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derived from the comparison, the information of the application file is presented through the CPU.

- 9. An authentication IC card comprising a CPU, an authentication file storing identity information, and an application file classified into files according to the depth of authentication, wherein when requested from the outside to present information recorded in the application file, the CPU outputs the identity information stored in the authentication file, whereby access to the application file is allowed through the CPU based on the judgment result from an external device.
 - 10. An authentication IC card according to claim 8 or 9, wherein each file of the application file records an ID indicative of the authority to conduct each target transaction.
 - 11. An authentication IC card according to any of claims 8 through 10, wherein qualification conditions to access each application file are pre-registered so that only the qualified persons are allowed to access the corresponding file.
 - 12. An authentication IC card comprising a CPU, an authentication file storing identity information or both of identity information and authentication information, and an application file storing job programs or data classified according to the depth of authentication, and when access to the application file is requested from the outside, the authentication IC card allowing the access as a result of

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judgment based on the identity information or the authentication information of the authentication file, wherein the authentication file stores identity information on at least one second person other than the first person subject to personal authentication with the card, or authentication information on at least one organism with predetermining a job or data to request for authenticating the second person or organism, and when requested to execute such a specific job as to request for authenticating the second person or organism, or to show the data, the CPU compares identity information or authentication information input by the second person or the organism from the outside with the identity information or authentication information of the authentication file to allow execution of the specific job or showing the data when the authentication is acceptable.

- 13. An authentication IC card according to claim 12, wherein the CPU outputs the identity information or authentication information stored in the authentication file to the external device, whereby access to the application file is allowed through the CPU based on the judgment result from the external device.
- 14. An authentication IC card according to claim 12 or
 13, wherein authentication of the persons or organism is executed
 for both the first person and the second person or organism,
 whereby access to the application file is allowed when both has
 passed in the authentication.

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- 15. An authentication IC card according to any of claims 12 through 14, further comprising a file for electronic certificates on which the contents of authentication are recorded so as to present an electronic certificate indicative of the contents of the authentication used for access to the application file.
- and an identity data input device, wherein the IC card reader reads out an IC card recording personal authentication data of a user so that identity data input through the identity data input device is checked with the personal authentication data recorded in the IC card, whereby a corresponding lock is opened when the user passes in the personal authentication.
 - 17. A lock control system according to claim 16, wherein the personal authentication data recorded in the IC card include user's living body information data or information data created by the user.
 - 18. A lock control system according to claim 16 or 17, wherein the IC card can selectively record plural kinds of personal authentication data.

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19. A lock control system according to claim 18, wherein the lock is provided in each control district of a storage that is divided into plural control districts so that the personal

authentication data can be selected for each control district.